

## **Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council**

Meeting Number 145 (10-14)

October 6, 2014

Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meetings are held at the Harford County Sheriff's Office Southern Precinct, 1305 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, MD 21040.

Meeting Number 145 was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Greetings to the community members and introduction of the council members followed. Local council members present were Paula Mullis, Gloria Moon, Betty Byrne, Doris G. Carey, Ron Sollod, Vince Rabenau, Bob Frisch and James B. Lyons III. Council member Yvonne Baldwin was absent. Chairperson Paula Mullis recognized candidates present for county and state elective offices: Dion Guthrie, incumbent for County Council, District A; Jansen Robinson, Harford County School Board, District A; Mary Ann Lisanti, House of Delegates, District 34A; Steve Trostle, State's Attorney; James (Jim) Thornton, President of County Council; Fred Mullis, Harford County School Board, District A; Mike Perrone, County Council, District A and Andrew Tress, representing Billy Boniface, County Council President. (Information about the candidates can be found on the Harford County Board of Elections website, [www.harfordvotes.info/](http://www.harfordvotes.info/)).

Also present were Captain Jonathan Krass, Southern Precinct Commander and Mrs. Lydia Brennan, assistant to Councilman Dion Guthrie.

A motion was made by Doris Carey and seconded by Betty Byrne to approve the June 2, 2014 minutes. Minutes for meeting number 144 (09-14) were not approved due to the lack of a quorum for the September meeting.

### **Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report**

Captain Jonathan Krass, Southern Precinct Commander, shared the District Crime Report through the month of September 2014. He shared that many scams are going on in the county, some of which are too difficult to investigate. He cautioned the community members to be aware of scammers who request credit card donations on behalf of a police agency. Everyone needs to monitor their

balances on credit card accounts, be aware of what your ATM looks like, and keep track of your money. If anything looks weird in your community, call the police and report what you see.

**Guest Speaker – Steve Trostle, Candidate for State’s Attorney**

Steve Trostle, candidate for State’s Attorney for Harford County, stated that as State’s Attorney his plan is to have a good working relationship with law enforcement officers of the county. As part of his administration, he plans to have open dialogue with other officers as well and allow his office to work as a well-oiled machine. Trostle stated that he is a very active citizen in Harford County and is very proud to be endorsed by the Harford County Deputy Sheriff’s Union.

**Board of Education Update by Bob Frisch**

Bob Frisch of the Board of Education said that an upgrade of the athletic facilities at Joppatowne High School is underway and should be completed by October 31. The plant at Joppatowne H.S. is significantly aged and may take \$3 million to renovate. We will have to wait and see where Joppatowne stands on the comprehensive study. Frisch said that it is budget time again. The superintendent will formulate a budget which will come to the Board and then go to the new County Executive. The Board is up for election. It will flip to an elected board. There is a lot at stake. He requested that the community does its homework about the plans for the school system and get involved.

**County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie**

Councilman Guthrie shared that he was endorsed by the Harford County Deputy Sheriff’s Union. He also shared that the Kohl’s warehouse is hiring 2,300 new people at this time. He mentioned that Smiths Detection, a new important business, is located in Edgewood, MD. The APG Waste-to-Energy plant located on Magnolia Rd will be torn down in a few years. The people who live near the facility now receive a tax credit which took several years to get. Dion mentioned that there is a bill coming from the State which will address putting cameras on school busses. He also said that the vacant Pizza Hut in Joppatowne will be demolished and replaced by a Dunkin Donuts / Baskin Robbins store.

**Community Council Members and Community**

Jim Lyons III of the Joppa-Magnolia Voluntary Fire Company mentioned that they had a great open house. There was a good turn-out. In the last month, there were not many building fires; however, there were over 4,000 ambulance calls. Bob Frisch reminded the group of early voting. Ron Sollod of the Volunteer Fire Company said that there should be smoke alarms within each bedroom as well as in common areas outside of bedrooms. He reminded everyone not to overload electrical circuits. Betty Byrne mentioned that unlawful telephone solicitations were being made to her home seeking business with the Joppa-Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company. Others should be aware of this kind of scam.

Gloria Moon mentioned the DAC meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup> for Anderson's Hardware; both she and Betty Byrne were in attendance, along with the owners.

Doris Carey shared that Harford Community College and the HCC Foundation had a clean audit, and both are in good financial health. Since allocations from the State and County have remained flat, the college has had to raise tuition. More financial help is needed from the State and County, as the college can't continue to rely on tuition increases. Ribbon cutting for the Towson University building at HCC will be held on Friday, October 10, 2014 at 11 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45p.m.

Doris G. Carey, Secretary